VZCZCXYZ0000 PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHCV #1207 2402136
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 272136Z AUG 08
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1706
INFO RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 0311
RUEHSI/AMEMBASSY TBILISI PRIORITY 0002
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS CARACAS 001207

SENSITIVE SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A TAGS: <u>PGOV</u> <u>PREL</u> <u>VE</u>

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE DELIVERED ON REJECTION OF RECOGNITION OF

ABKHAZIA AND SOUTH OSSETIA AS INDEPENDENT STATES

REF: A. STATE 091894

\_B. CARACAS 001160

- 11. (SBU) Embassy delivered talking points in reftel to Foreign Ministry Affairs Director for North American Affairs Yaneth Arocha. No response is expected from the MFA.
- ¶2. (SBU) The Venezuelan government has so far refrained from recognizing Abkhazia and South Ossetia, however President Chavez recently expressed strong support for Russia's intervention in Georgia (Ref B). Chavez opposed the recognition of Kosovo's independence, again in support of the Russian position.

  DUDDY